



*Our Future's So Bright*

ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
2005 ANNUAL REPORT

## ST. LUCIE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

2300 Virginia Avenue  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34982  
(772) 462-1100  
[www.co.st-lucie.fl.us](http://www.co.st-lucie.fl.us)

### MISSION STATEMENT

*To provide service,  
infrastructure and  
leadership necessary  
to advance a safe  
community, maintain  
a high quality of life,  
and protect the natural  
environment for all  
our citizens.*

### COMMISSIONERS

*\* pictured left to right*

**DOUG COWARD**

*District 2*

**FRANNIE HUTCHINSON**

*District 4*

**CHRIS CRAFT**

*District 5*

**PAULA A. LEWIS**

*District 3*

**JOE SMITH**

*District 1*



# Message from the Commissioners

Dear Residents & Visitors of St. Lucie County:

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the St. Lucie County 2005 Annual Report celebrating our theme of "Our Future's So Bright!" Despite three major hurricanes over the past two years and intensive recovery efforts, the County is making significant progress on many fronts.

St. Lucie County celebrated its Centennial anniversary in 2005 and during our 100th year, we saw so many "bright" concepts come to fruition. We were able to increase our services provided to citizens with the opening of the Walton Road Annex in Port St. Lucie and the completion of the County Administration building addition in Fort Pierce. The County's Research and Education Park became certified by the State and significant progress was made to recruit businesses and develop the Park. We continue to foster relationships with partners such as Indian River Community College, Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute, USDA, the University of Florida and Florida Atlantic University in order to create exceptional higher education opportunities for all residents. We have been working with residents, landowners and developers to create a smart growth plan for the County through alternative growth management strategies such as the Towns, Villages and Countryside plan and the Rural Lands Stewardship program. The County continued its commitment to preserve native Florida habitat through the Environmental Significant Lands program. These "bright" spots in 2005 are only a few of the building blocks that will lead to an even brighter future for residents and visitors alike!

This report highlights the many accomplishments of each of the County's departments over the past year. So keep those sunglasses handy as we progress forward into our next 100 years because in St. Lucie County... "Our Future's So Bright!"

Sincerely,

  
Doug Coward, Chairman



# Message from the County Administrator

Dear Residents of St. Lucie County and Visitors:

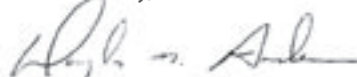
This year's theme, "Our Future's So Bright" couldn't be more appropriate! Over the past ten plus years County Commissioners and staff have been working hard on implementing plans to position St. Lucie County not only as a leading county in Florida, but also in the nation. I remember not too many years ago when our assets and potential were being recognized by few. That has changed and we are now positioned to move into a new era. These are some of the reasons why:

- The 1,600 acre Research and Education Park was certified in 2005 by the State of Florida and the Master Plan is in place, together with a zoning overlay, which will bring high-quality jobs to our community and spur economic development. A Criminal Justice Coordinator was hired to implement the 2005 Criminal Justice System Study which, in turn, will save the taxpayers of our County hundreds of thousands of dollars over the upcoming years.
- The Towns, Villages and the Countryside (TVC) proposed Comprehensive Plan Element, although not approved by the Board of County Commissioners at this time, has already resulted in a positive effect on the design of proposed development projects being submitted to the county for review and consideration.
- The planned "Transfer of Development Rights" will preserve hundreds of acres of quality land in its natural state for eternity.
- The now under construction 150-acre commerce park at the County's International Airport will open in early 2007 which will bring additional economic development and jobs to our community.
- The commitment by the County Commissioners to rebuild the County's emergency reserves following the past two hurricane seasons and establish an operating reserve will make us financially strong which will not only assist us in dealing with future potential disasters but also improve our efforts to get the best interest rates possible from lending institutions on future borrowings.
- Over 7,300 acres of environmentally significant lands that will forever remain saved from development.

The continued commitment by the County Commissioners to build new libraries and improve and expand the county's infrastructure to accommodate both current and future residents. This infrastructure includes a better transportation network including public transportation, an expanded utility system, new county buildings to better serve our residents, new and improved regional parks and a state of the art landfill baling facility that will extend the life of the county's landfill and save county residents millions of dollars in landfill tipping fees.

There are many other items too numerous to mention that makes "our future so bright!" Just put on your sunglasses and watch your future unfold!

Sincerely,

  
Douglas M. Anderson,  
County Administrator



**DOUG ANDERSON**  
*County Administrator*

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**FAYE OUTLAW**  
*Assistant County Administrator*

.....



**RAY WAZNY**  
*Assistant County Administrator*

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Replaced the airfield lighting system
- ▶ Installed security fencing
- ▶ Extended taxiway "A"
- ▶ Submitted the Federal Aviation Regulation Part 150, Noise Compatibility Study
- ▶ Upgraded the airfield markings
- ▶ Began the infrastructure construction for the Airport West Commerce Park that will provide over 150 acres of industrial development
- ▶ Played host to the 2nd annual Wings 'n Wheels Air, Military and Vehicle Show for the benefit of the Victory Forge Military Academy and Boot Camp
- ▶ Initiated the design of a new runway for training purposes as well as noise reduction on neighboring areas
- ▶ Designed new Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Facility

## Airport



2nd Annual Wings 'n Wheels Air, Military and Vehicle Show demonstration

St. Lucie County International Airport, which covers 3,660 acres and is owned and operated by the St. Lucie County Board of County Commissioners, is managed and maintained by an Airport Department that includes four maintenance/operations staff and four administrative personnel.

The mission of the Airport Department is to operate the St. Lucie County International Airport in a safe, efficient, and environmentally sensitive manner, while serving the airport tenants and the general aviation community, and the air transportation needs of the County.

The Airport is committed to maintaining a positive relationship with our neighbors and users, while striving to become financially self-sustaining through the full use of airport owned properties for commercial and industrial business.



St. Lucie County International Airport serves the aviation needs of the community with charter flights, flight instruction, aircraft rental, aircraft sales and customs.



The Met Life Blimp makes a brief refueling visit at the St. Lucie County International Airport.

# Central Services

The Central Services Department's mission is: "While we maintain all County facilities, oversee remodeling and new construction, we will offer prompt professional assistance at the highest quality." To accomplish this goal Central Services Department is comprised of seven divisions: Administration, Construction/Renovation, Administrative Judicial Maintenance, Air-Conditioning, Rock Road Jail Maintenance, Housekeeping and the Service Garage. There are 64 full-time and 36 part-time employees.



Recreation area inside the new jail pod.

As the number of residents in St. Lucie County increases, our department strives to support that growth by upgrading many of the County facilities as well as new construction, meeting the needs of all County employees who serve the community.

This year has been a busy one. Along with new projects the department has been very involved with projects that were generated from hurricanes Frances, Jeanne and Wilma. After the storms, Central Services recognized the need to create division specific storm procedures to ensure a thorough and safe evaluation of storm related damages. Central Services implemented these procedures with successful results after Hurricane Wilma.



St. Lucie County Commissioners enjoy the excitement at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the new Administration Building Addition.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ **Constructed two new jail pods at the St. Lucie County jail**
- ▶ **Completed construction of the 25,300 square foot Walton Road Annex building**
- ▶ **Replaced roofs at Lakewood Park Library, Fort Pierce Community Center, Fort Pierce Library, Central Services A/C and welding shop, Avenue C Health Department, Savannas Campground restroom and Walton Scrub Site garage**
- ▶ **Completed the construction of the addition to the Administration Building**
- ▶ **Built new laundry facility and complete renovation of Rasmussen House at the Savannas Campground**
- ▶ **Installed new air conditioning chiller at the Emergency Operations Center the Sheriff's Administration Facility**
- ▶ **Constructed new entrance and parking area at Dollman Park-West and constructed a dune crossover at John Brooks Park**
- ▶ **Built new restrooms at the Ilous Ellis Park**

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Administered the Hurricane Housing Relief Program (HHRP) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Disaster Recovery Initiative funding providing over \$10,000,000 of State and Federal funds to rebuild existing homes and build stronger affordable homes in the next three years
- ▶ Managed all aspects of the Attainable Housing Task Force
- ▶ Administered the Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Shelter Plus Care grant providing housing and other needs to the homeless
- ▶ Worked with the Council on Aging to establish two East-West Connector Routes to the Treasure Coast Connector
- ▶ Initiated a program to provide benches, as functional art, at the Transit stops through a Florida Department of Transportation grant and local funds
- ▶ Coordinated 513,406 transportation trips for demand response service funded through the State of Florida Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund
- ▶ Administered \$31,622,581 in contracts and grants that provided many needed services to our residents
- ▶ Committed \$100,000 toward Municipal Services Benefit Unit (MSBU) for water and sewer service for income eligible clients

# Community Services



St. Lucie County Commissioners and other dignitaries pose at the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the East-West Route for the Treasure Coast Connector.

The Community Services Department is comprised of five divisions including the Housing Division, Treasure Coast Community Action Agency, Social Services Division, Grants/Contracts Division and Transportation Division.

The services include down payment and closing cost assistance for income eligible families to purchase a home, assistance for emergency repairs to won occupied homes, assistance with rent and utility bills, indigent



Artistic bus benches line the county's streets for Community Transit.

cremation services and coordination of the transit system for St. Lucie County. The department has had a significant financial impact on the community by providing improved services to the citizens and improved cooperation between governmental entities.

# Cooperative Extension

The St. Lucie County Cooperative Extension office provides assistance in St. Lucie County in several areas: Agribusiness, 4-H, Natural Resources and Energy Conservation, Family and Consumer Sciences, Growth Management, Windstorm Mitigation, Marine Science, Commercial and Homeowner Horticulture and Commercial Citrus Production.

The staff consists of seven Extension Agents, one Multi-County Agent housed in Martin County, four full-time Program Assistants, one executive assistant, five staff assistants and a maintenance technician. The continued cooperative effort between the Agriculture office and the St. Lucie County School Board includes an Agriscience Instructor/Leader and a Vocational Agricultural Technician.

The Department has 55 Master Gardeners that volunteered 8,900 hours assisting homeowners' concerns and 2,065 adult volunteers that play a role in the St. Lucie County 4-H program reaching over 24,500 youth in St. Lucie County.



Anita Neal, Cooperative Extension Director, presents the shrimp aquaculture program to Commissioners from around the state during a Florida Association of Counties' tour.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Developed a new youth program with the Mosquito Control department focusing on the Mosquito and its place in the environment in St. Lucie County
- ▶ Provided training on site and through on-line resources for over 500 professionals in pesticide application, invasive plant management, pesticides and biological control of invasive species
- ▶ Recycled over 155.3 miles of fishing line collected from recycling bins
- ▶ Trained and certified 3,017 citrus production workers and managers on Best Management Practices
- ▶ Demonstrated the potential for farming marine shrimp utilizing mineral rich freshwater from the Floridian aquifer
- ▶ Provided post-hurricane guidance for industry growers and producers
- ▶ Trained 120 homeowners to design environmentally friendly landscapes

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ **Drafted 39 Ordinances from January 1 through September 30, 2005; a total of 412 Resolutions consisting of 355 for the Board of County Commissioners, 2 for the Mosquito Control District and 55 for the Erosion Control District**
- ▶ **Acquired rights-of-way needed for the widening of South 25th Street from Midway Road to Edwards Road and the Lennard Road MSBU project**
- ▶ **Obtained License Agreements from property owners on Indian River Drive to stabilize and plant native vegetation on the embankment and repair the travel lanes**
- ▶ **Obtained Temporary Construction Easements for the South Hutchinson Island Dune Restoration Project**

# County Attorney

The primary function of the County Attorney's Office is to provide legal representation and advice to the Board of County Commissioners and its staff. Other functions include: attendance at meetings of the Board and Board Advisory Committee Meetings and various other meetings of various bodies as directed by the Board of County Commissioners, providing legal service for several constitutional officers and coordinating the efforts of other attorneys representing constitutional officers and other governmental bodies as required. Additionally, the County Attorney's Office initiates, presents and conducts litigation brought on behalf of the Board and defends or actively participates in the defense of actions brought against the County at both the trial and appellate levels in State and Federal Courts.



Commissioner Frannie Hutchinson reviews the construction plans for the South 25th Street widening project.

The Property Acquisitions Division under the County Attorney maintains original deeds and documents of properties acquired by the County for subdivisions, roads, easements, environmental lands, and various projects that take place in the County.

In August, the County Attorney's Office acquired the Criminal Justice Coordinator position. This new position will implement priorities established by the Public Safety Coordinating Council and the County. Additionally, the Criminal Justice Coordinator is responsible for implementing the criminal justice system assessment action plan, and carrying out the County's directives including gathering data, implementing initiatives and coordinating task forces. The Criminal Justice Coordinator position is working on the following initiatives: Global Positioning Satellite (G.P.S.) tracking for electronic pretrial release services, coordinating the development and implementation of a pretrial release office, coordinating a data exchange computer network system through the Sheriff, State Attorney and Clerk of Court, coordinating strategies in the criminal justice system that are more efficient, yet maintain the integrity of the system along with providing public safety to the County.

# Cultural Affairs

Cultural Affairs is responsible for the development and administration of the County's museum assets including the St. Lucie County Historical Museum, Marine Center (containing the Smithsonian Marine Ecosystem Exhibit), and the future Old Orange Avenue Post Office Cultural and Humanities Center.

The department also provides support and assistance to the Navy UDT-Seal Museum. It manages the affairs of the Cultural Affairs Council and the Historical Commission and oversees the County's Art in Public Places program. The Cultural Affairs Department interfaces with over 30 local non-profit organizations in the community to address key "quality of life" issues through the Cultural Affairs Council's mini-grant program.



"Exodus" by artist David Hayes - Photo courtesy of David Hayes Jr.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Presented one of the largest sculpture shows in the United States— forty-one pieces of Connecticut-based artist David Hayes, work were displayed in Tradition and Fort Pierce
- ▶ Installed the 9/11 sculpture, created by local sculptor Pat Cochran at Tradition Field
- ▶ Commissioned artist Anita Prentice to create mosaic reproductions of selected works from local artists for 100 bus stop benches
- ▶ Presented a retrospective art exhibit of Highwaymen Livingston "Castro" Roberts work at the Historical Museum
- ▶ Transformed the St. Lucie County Historical Museum back to 1905 with the "Black, White and Read All Over" exhibit in honor of the County's Centennial
- ▶ Presented the monthly "Art in the Park" exhibits at the St. Lucie County Marine Center
- ▶ Received a \$350,000 Historical Preservation Grant from the State of Florida for the restoration and rehabilitation of the Old Orange Avenue Post Office in Fort Pierce
- ▶ Hosted the 1st "Lucie Awards" honoring four local citizens for their outstanding contributions to the arts including Zanobia Jefferson, Carlos Barrena, Joe Holiday and Helen Terry
- ▶ Sponsored ZoraFest, a celebration of famed author Zora Neale Hurston's life

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### GRANTS

*Although significant hurricane related grant efforts are still pending, grant funds actually received increased by 12% to \$12.5 million, including:*

- ▶ \$4.4 million for native re-vegetation of Indian River Drive
- ▶ \$3.4 million for Hackberry Hammock expansion to Paleo Hammock Natural Area
- ▶ \$200,000 for gypsum wallboard recycling at the Balefill
- ▶ \$150,000 for River Park Marina
- ▶ \$50,000 for hurricane-related tourism recovery

### PURCHASING

- ▶ Produced savings through reduction in mailing and printing cost of purchase orders with an increase in Purchasing Card transactions
- ▶ Processed Purchase Orders Totaling \$44,639,919 for Hurricane Frances
- ▶ Processed Purchase Orders Totaling \$38,152,120 for Hurricane Jeanne
- ▶ Bid and awarded \$11.2 million New Clerk of Courts Office Building
- ▶ Bid and awarded Global Positioning Satellite Pre-Trail Electronic Monitoring Services Contract

## Grants

The native plant revegetation for the Indian River Drive restoration project.



County grants writers experienced a highly successful year. The number of grant applications submitted increased by 15% from 55 to 63, including many dedicated to hurricane-related recovery. Grants were written for 12 county departments/divisions.

## Purchasing

The Purchasing Department is responsible for the procurement of goods and services used by all County Departments. It is the objective of the County to purchase the necessary supplies, equipment and services at the lowest possible cost consistent with the quality needed to meet its requirement and to ensure that our County citizens receive the maximum value for each dollar expended.

Architectural rendering of the new Clerk of Courts Building in downtown Fort Pierce scheduled to open in late 2007.



# Growth Management



Adams Ranch. Photo courtesy of Bud Adams.

Growth Management is comprised of three divisions: Administration, Planning and Tourism and Economic Development. The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) is part of the Administration Division.

With a staff of 25 people in professional, technical and clerical positions, the Department provides guidance, technical support and administrative services for tourism promotion, economic development incentives, property, land use and development related matters to not only the Board of County Commissioners, but also the Planning and Zoning Commission, Board of Adjustment, the Metropolitan Planning Organization and various other Board appointed committees and task forces.

The Planning Division is responsible for all short and long-term community planning efforts and activities, including assessing and monitoring the impacts of development proposals on the community's infrastructure and environmental resources.

The Planning Division also provides staffing support for the St. Lucie County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) - a Countywide transportation planning organization responsible for working with State and Federal agencies in order to ensure that the primary transportation network in the community operates efficiently.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Facilitated approval of a Special District – Overlay Zone for the Research & Education Park which encompassed approximately 1,600 acres of land
- ▶ Facilitated transmittal of the proposed Towns, Villages and the Countryside (TVC) comprehensive plan amendment to the State Department of Community Affairs. The TVC represents a new settlement pattern option for the North County with an emphasis on preserving countryside and open space through the clustering of development into towns or villages
- ▶ Coordinated the transmittal of a proposed Adams Ranch Rural Lands Stewardship comprehensive plan amendment to the state. Upon adoption, this rural stewardship amendment would protect over 12,000 acres of existing rural and native habitat lands within the Adams Ranch from future development
- ▶ Updated the Metropolitan Planning Organization Congestion Management System Plan
- ▶ Updated the Metropolitan Planning Organization Transit Development Plan
- ▶ Facilitated the completion of the White City Vision Report

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Conducted a pay study for all employees and implemented result
- ▶ Processed over 2,569 applications from the public and hired 186 new employees
- ▶ Conducted the Annual Longevity Breakfast for the Board of County Commissioners' and Constitutional Officers' employees
- ▶ Conducted personnel related training for staff in regards to employee discipline procedures
- ▶ Realized a significant reduction in total workers compensation payments through awareness and education
- ▶ Conducted a Health and Safety Fair to promote workplace safety and wellness awareness to employees and their families
- ▶ Provided workplace safety training for over 300 employees in the areas of Fall Protection, Hazard Communication, Heat Stress, Personal Protective Equipment, Back Safety Ladder Safety, Electrical Hazards, Hearing Protection and Blood-borne Pathogens
- ▶ Instituted monthly Human Resources meetings with staff to discuss issues affecting employees in regards to personnel matters

# Human Resources

The Human Resources Department (HR) is comprised of six employees for Employee & Labor Relations, three for the Risk Management Division and three part-time employees for the mailroom to serve a workforce of nearly 1,000 employees.



2005 Employee of the Year, Dorothy "Dot" Blair and her dog "Chance". Working for the Library, Mrs. Blair initiated the Waggin' Tales Reading program for St. Lucie County.



Members of the Road and Bridge crew posed at the 2005 Annual Longevity Breakfast.

# Information Technology

The mission of the Information Technology Department is to provide the solutions, tools and support that ensures the highest possible return on our customer's investment in information systems.

The function of Information Technology is to provide our customers with: a robust and stable network environment; innovative web research, design and support, dependable quality hardware, software, operations and customer service support, diverse application and database support and advanced and cost effective technology solutions.

While maintaining the existing infrastructure, Information Technology also recommends and implements new technology to meet the needs of our customers for the future. The department has 61 positions to provide support to the County organization, covering over thirty-five locations and the J19C Judicial Courts System which includes the local four-County Treasure Coast area.



Information Technology training lab.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Completed over 14,940 work order requests
- ▶ Installed 114 new desktop PCs under the third year of the PC Replacement Program
- ▶ Upgraded over 383 desktop PCs under the first year of the PC Refresh Program
- ▶ Upgraded key segments of the County Network to meet the expanding role of technology in serving the citizens of St. Lucie County
- ▶ Added State Attorney, Public Defender and Courts Administration to the County standard PBX system
- ▶ Provided Computer Training for over 394 County employees to enhance their skills and improve efficiency

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Began Waggin' Tales literacy program at three branches
- ▶ Further expansion of library's DVD collection
- ▶ Began increasing Spanish Language collection in all libraries to meet the need of the ever changing cultural diversity within our community
- ▶ Sponsored Poetry Contest; handled all book sales and coordinated children's activities at the first annual Zora Fest!
- ▶ Added online system-wide reserves allowing patrons to place reserves online
- ▶ Provided staff support for the statewide Ask-a-Librarian online reference chat service
- ▶ Placed JobView kiosks in three locations to better help the public in finding jobs in the Treasure Coast area
- ▶ Provided assistance to Community Services, Emergency Operations Center, Blue Tarp program and Salvation Army during hurricane recovery



Waggin' Tales program participants.

# Library



Children enjoy a story at the Hurston Branch Library reopening ceremony.

The Library Department is responsible for providing access high-interest and popular reading materials at all public libraries, as well as providing accurate and up-to-date reference and information service at all locations.

The library provides programs for children from ages 0-17 throughout the year and programs for the adult population via outside speakers and authors on a regular basis. Library services are offered through five branch locations, one Bookmobile, Books-by-mail program, Nursing Home rotating collections and through a Library Cooperative on the St. Lucie West campus of Indian River Community College/ Florida Atlantic University. The library has 77 full-time employees and 45 volunteers.

# Media Relations

Media Relations consists of five employees, the Technical Operations Manager and two Media Specialists for SLCTV, the Public Information Officer and a Senior Staff Assistant.

The mission of the department is to promote and enhance St. Lucie County through consistent, professional high quality imagery via television (SLCTV), publications and media relations.



Taping of "Inside St. Lucie" at the SLCTV studios.



Celebrating the County's Centennial.



Press conference during Hurricane Wilma.



SLCTV crew taping "Postcards from Home."

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Received the Florida Public Relations Association Treasure Coast Chapter's 2004 Crisis Communicator of the Year Award and the 2004-05 Virginia Moulton President's Award
- ▶ Coordinated national and international press information for Hurricanes Wilma including situation reports for the media, live on-air interviews
- ▶ Coordinated ground breaking ceremonies, dedications and ribbon cutting ceremonies for the Treasure Coast Connector's East-West Route Services, 9/11 World Trade Center Sculpture unveiling, Walton Road Annex opening, Administration Building Addition opening, Bluefield Ranch opening, South 25th Street widening project and Bus Bench art unveiling
- ▶ Coordinated the County's Centennial Celebration with events and promotions throughout the year
- ▶ Published and distributed the Investment for the Future tabloid in January and July to over 50,000 households throughout the County
- ▶ Premiered four new original programs: "Inside St. Lucie," "Postcards from Home," "Writers Block" and "10-8"
- ▶ Began offering live video streaming and video on demand services via the County's website
- ▶ Began airing Planning and Zoning Commission meetings in addition to Code Enforcement Board, Board of County Commission and Metropolitan Planning Organization meetings

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Maintained effective control of mosquitoes with over 1.18 Million acres controlled for adult mosquitoes and nearly 4,000 acres of coastal wetlands managed
- ▶ Responded to 186 customer service requests
- ▶ Coordinated with the Florida Department of Health and Florida Medical Entomology Lab and the Centers for Disease Control as part of the state-wide West Nile virus and Saint Louis Encephalitis Response Plans
- ▶ Continued successful Brazilian pepper/exotic plant eradication and maintenance program for 30 miles of mosquito impoundment dikes and 4,000 acres of wetlands
- ▶ Completed native upland and wetlands restoration work at Indrio Blueway Buffer for preservation, conservation, public access and management of a mosquito control impoundment
- ▶ Completed public access and water quality improvement construction activities at Wildcat Cove Natural Area
- ▶ Sponsored initiation of feasibility study for restoration of Little Mud Creek, Oyster bars and of Spoil Island area of the Indian River Lagoon
- ▶ Initiated Spotted Seatrout acoustical study to examine effects of impoundment restoration on spawning activity with the Marine Resources Council of East Central Florida

# Mosquito Control District

The Mosquito Control District is a dependent taxing district, overseen by its own Board and the State of Florida, Bureau of Entomology and Pest Control, Mosquito Control Section. The District uses a variety of tools to monitor and control the mosquito population.

Most people are familiar with the mosquito trucks that are used for spraying mosquitoes, but the service of the Mosquito Control District also includes monitoring programs, trapping, analysis of environmental information and use of impoundments.

The Mosquito Control District encompasses 301 square miles within St. Lucie County. The District employs 23 full-time, 2 half-time and 14 part-time employees in the following four divisions: administration, inspection, education and impoundment operations.

Native upland and wetlands restoration work at Indrio Blueway Buffer.



Fishing at the pier at the Bear Point Mitigation Area.



Entrance to Bear Point Mitigation Area on South Hutchinson Island.

# Parks & Recreation



Open Space Pool in Fort Pierce.

The mission of the Parks and Recreation Department is to provide customer-focused park and recreation services that meet the needs of St. Lucie County residents consistent with the initiatives of the Board of County Commissioners.

The Parks and Recreation Department is divided into several divisions including Administration, Parks, Recreation, Fairgrounds, Fairwinds Golf Course and Tradition Field Sports Complex. The divisions maintain, operate, program and facilitate the following venues: 25 baseball fields, 10 outdoor basketball courts, 3-outdoor bocce ball courts, 1 mobile sound stage, 6 sets of transportable bleachers, 12 batting cages, 1 campground, 24 shuffleboard courts, 2 outdoor racquetball courts, 3 soccer fields, 6 softball fields, 3 newly renovated and constructed swimming pools, 24 tennis courts, 6 outdoor volleyball courts, 3 outdoor walking tracks, 1 bicycling trail, 2 equestrian trails, 1 fitness course/trail, 1 nature trail, 1 18-hole golf course, 1 sports complex with 7 professional baseball fields, a 250-acre Fairground, 7 water craft launching areas, 20 miles of ocean-front beaches and 21 public properties. Parks and Recreation maintains a departmental budget of \$13,900,000 and employs 138 full-time employees, 35 yearly and seasonal part-time employees.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Received Florida Recreation and Parks Association's 2005 Showcase Award for St. Lucie County Fairgrounds and Tradition Field
- ▶ Awarded 2005 Best Municipality Award to the Grounds Crew at Tradition Field
- ▶ Received Golf Digest's 2005 "4 Stars Best Value for Your Money Award"
- ▶ Filled all summer camps to capacity—serving over 300 children
- ▶ Rebuilt the Open Space Pool in Fort Pierce
- ▶ Provided extensive support for hurricane recovery operations at the Civic Center, Lincoln Park Community Center and the Savannas Recreation Area
- ▶ Constructed a half court basketball court at Maravilla Recreation Center
- ▶ Increased bleacher seating in Adams Family Equestrian Arena
- ▶ Resurfaced track at Lawnwood Stadium
- ▶ Reconstructed Lawnwood Stadium concrete bleachers and renovated Lawnwood Stadium fields including laser grading of football fields
- ▶ Renovated Ilous Ellis Memorial Park restroom facilities

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ANIMAL CONTROL

- ▶ Handled 12,399 calls for service, 107 bite cases, 181 vicious animal complaints, and investigated 333 cruelty cases
- ▶ Transported 1,676 animals to the Humane Society
- ▶ Educated citizens through presentations at schools, neighborhood associations and civic organizations
- ▶ During a state of emergency, animal control officers assist persons in distress by distributing needed food & water for their pets

### RADIOLOGICAL PLANNING

- ▶ Acted as chief meteorologist planning zone
- ▶ Completed the changes to the State of Florida Radiological Emergency Plan for the State Division of Emergency Management
- ▶ Conducted quarterly tests of the St. Lucie Siren System to maintain public awareness of its function and ensure its operability
- ▶ Conducted quarterly checks on operability of radiological equipment consisting of 2,400 dosimeters and 90 Geiger counters

### 911 CENTRAL COMMUNICATIONS

- ▶ Handled a total of 250,987 "911" calls from January 1 through October 31
- ▶ Upgraded the "911" operating system to handle mapping for wireless calls coming into the center
- ▶ Handled 3,882 administration calls and 4,896 "911" calls from October 22 through October 25 for Hurricane Wilma
- ▶ Coordinated and handled the Hurricane Information Hotline during the Emergency Operations Center activation for Hurricane Wilma

# Public Safety

The Public Safety Department consists of Animal Control, Radiological Planning, 911 Central Communications Center, Emergency Management, Marine Safety and the 800 MHz Communications System.

Commissioner Chris Craft and his executive aide, Eva O'Donnell, distribute tarps and water after Hurricane Wilma.



County Administrator Doug Anderson holds a press conference at the Emergency Operations Center during Hurricane Wilma.



St. Lucie County Marine Safety installed new Rip Current warning signs at area beaches.

## Animal Control

The Animal Control Division is responsible for enforcing the county ordinances and the state statutes pertaining to animals. Officers inform residents who own pets of their responsibilities and provide information regarding the spaying and neutering programs in the area. The personnel staff consists of one coordinator, two full-time officers and two part-time officers.

## Radiological Planning

The Radiological Coordinator, with one clerical staff, coordinates disaster planning and mitigation involving Florida Power and Light's Nuclear Power Plant located on South Hutchinson Island. Local and state plans are reviewed annually and changes are coordinated with the Florida Division of Emergency Management, Florida Power and Light Emergency Planning and counties within a 50-mile radius of the plant. The Special Needs Registry, averaging about 500 county residents, is maintained on a daily basis.

## 911 Central Communications Center

The 911 Central Communications Center handles all the 911 calls for fire, rescue and law enforcement for the City of Fort Pierce, the City of Port St. Lucie and the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office which includes the unincorporated areas of the County. The Center also dispatches all calls to the County Animal Control Officers. The Center employs 57 full-time employees and 10 part-time employees.

## Emergency Management

With two employees, the Emergency Management Division handles and coordinates all major emergencies for the County.

## Marine Safety

Marine Safety consists of nine full-time, three part-time and 10 summer time temporary employees. There are 11 lifeguard towers throughout St. Lucie County, six of which are manned year round including Pepper Park, South Beach Boardwalk, Kimberly Bergalis, Surfside, Jaycee Park, Frederick Douglass and Waveland Beach.

## 800 MHz

The 800 MHz department consists of one Information Systems Coordinator and entails the entire 800 MHz communications system for all agencies within St. Lucie County. During Hurricane Wilma, this system allowed communications between all agencies when other systems were inadequate.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- ▶ Tracked 23 named tropical storms during the 2005 Tropical Storm Season
- ▶ Activated for one major hurricane landfall – Hurricane Wilma
- ▶ Responded to over 30 call-outs including hazardous material spills, fires and other emergency incidents
- ▶ Conducted various exercises including nuclear power plant and hurricane involving local, state and federal officials

### MARINE SAFETY

- ▶ Saw nearly 550,000 visitors to the guarded beaches
- ▶ Took over 20,000 preventative actions including 60 medical aids, 9 of which were major medical actions, 3 patrons missing were all found, 17 rescued patrons from the water and zero fatalities
- ▶ Took 30 enforcement actions, 20 boat and personal watercraft warnings, and had 2 boat rescues
- ▶ Taught beach safety seminars at local schools and clubs reaching over 350 people
- ▶ Broadcast daily beach reports on WQCS 88.9 FM and the County's website

### 800 MHz

- ▶ Deployed the Emergency Response Team with the Emergency Deployable Interoperable Communications System (EDICS) Trailer to the Gulf Coast to assist with communications in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina for a 10-day mission
- ▶ Developed and implemented a Communications Plan that provides both intra and inter-agency access for effective coordination of response between St. Lucie County, City of Fort Pierce and the City of Port St. Lucie.

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ADMINISTRATION

- ▶ Completed construction of Phase I of the Taylor Creek Dredging
- ▶ Coordinated restoration and repairs related to Hurricane Frances, Jeanne and Wilma

### EROSION DISTRICT

- ▶ Coordinated emergency beach restoration of Fort Pierce Beach
- ▶ Coordinated emergency dune restoration along south St. Lucie County shoreline
- ▶ Secured permits for artificial reef sites and completed two artificial deployments
- ▶ Initiated oyster reef enhancement in the Indian River lagoon
- ▶ Secured \$85,000 in grants for artificial reef program
- ▶ Received over \$4.9 million in emergency and grant funds from FDEP

### ROAD AND BRIDGE

- ▶ Installed 4,317 signs and posts and 1,079 feet of guardrail
- ▶ Restriped 55 miles of roadway and resurfaced 22 miles of roadway
- ▶ Issued 311 permits
- ▶ Completed 60,000 feet enhances swale maintenance

# Public Works

The Public Works Department consists of the following divisions: Administration, Erosion Control, Road and Bridge, Engineering, and Code Compliance.

## Administration

Public Work Administration provides support to the various Public Works Divisions and to the general public.

## Erosion District

The St. Lucie County Erosion District was created in 1967 by a special act of the Florida Legislature with the intent and purpose to provide a means to manage beach erosion problems in St. Lucie County. The Public Works Department – Erosion District provides information, analysis, and staff support sufficient for the County Administrator and the Erosion District Board to make well-informed decisions. The Erosion District is dedicated to providing technical expertise and sound engineering judgment in evaluating beach erosion and inlet management issues. The District is primarily responsible for planning and coordinating beach, environmental and coastal issues with local, state and federal agencies. Additional duties include management of the artificial reef program.

## Road and Bridge

The Road and Bridge Division has 83 employees, plus 18 contract labor employees. The Division has four Operating Units - Maintenance, Traffic, Drainage and Stormwater - and is responsible for providing maintenance



The Artificial Reef program, renewed in August 2005, was very successful seeing significant activity within weeks of deployment. Photo by Dr. Lee E. Harris, Assoc. Professor of Ocean Engineering at Florida Institute of Technology.

and reconstructing of County roadways and drainage facilities. The Maintenance Section is responsible for maintaining 348 miles of paved roadways, 119 miles of rock/dirt roads and 46 miles of asphalt milled roads. The Traffic Section is responsible for designing new signals, the maintenance, repair and operation of existing signals and flashers, the fabrication of regulation, warning and street signs, the installation of signs, the application annually of roadway thermoplastic stripping and marking of paved roadways, conducting traffic counts and traffic operation studies

Restoration of Indian River Drive.



and maintaining the County's accident data base. The Drainage Unit is responsible for the mechanical cleaning of 1,100+ miles of roadway ditches/swales and 50+ miles of primary drainways/canals.

## Engineering

The Engineering Division proposes, designs and implements projects in stormwater management, transportation system enhancements and infrastructure maintenance. The Engineering Division implements the Stormwater Management Program and the Municipal Service Benefit Unit (MSBU) Program.

## Code Compliance

St. Lucie County continues to grow at a rapid pace and the Code Compliance Division is meeting the challenge with an increase in personnel and implementing new software to meet the ever-increasing demand from permits to inspections. Construction value has exceeded the \$350 million mark, the highest in the history of the County, resulting in \$362,172,645 of total construction value. Single-family homes have decreased from 946 in 2004 to 885 due to closing out of two major developments; however there are other major developments slated to being in 2006. The rebuilding from hurricanes Frances and Jeanne had a great impact on the annual numbers resulting in the highest monthly totals for the year.

The Code Compliance Division consists of Permitting, Building Inspections, Contractor's Licensing and Code Enforcement. As a result of rising complaints against licensed and un-licensed contractors and work being performed without a permit, it was necessary to add additional staff to the Contractor Licensing Department. Two new Licensing Investigators were added to meet the demand to work closely with the Sheriff's Department and the State Attorney's Office.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ENGINEERING

- ▶ Completed construction of Platt's Creek Regional Stormwater Pond on Sunrise Boulevard
- ▶ Completed construction of Edwards Road and Selvitz Road intersection expansion project
- ▶ Managed and coordinated the removal of 600,000 cubic yards of debris resulting from Hurricanes Frances and Jeanne, and 100,000 cubic yards of debris from Hurricane Wilma
- ▶ Completed bridge repairs for Glades Cutoff Road over C24 Canal and Juanita Avenue over Whispering Creek Bridge
- ▶ Completed construction of \$30 million Hurricane-related repairs to Indian River Drive

### CODE COMPLIANCE

- ▶ Issued 28,040 permits, a 95% increase, resulting in 97,031 inspections – an increase of 27% over 2004
- ▶ Maintained a 48-hour response time to all code complaints and 24-hour response time to any life-safety complaint
- ▶ Handled 6,037 cases with 320 cases going before the Code Enforcement Board.
- ▶ Opened 3,147 cases this past year by the Contractor Licensing Investigators

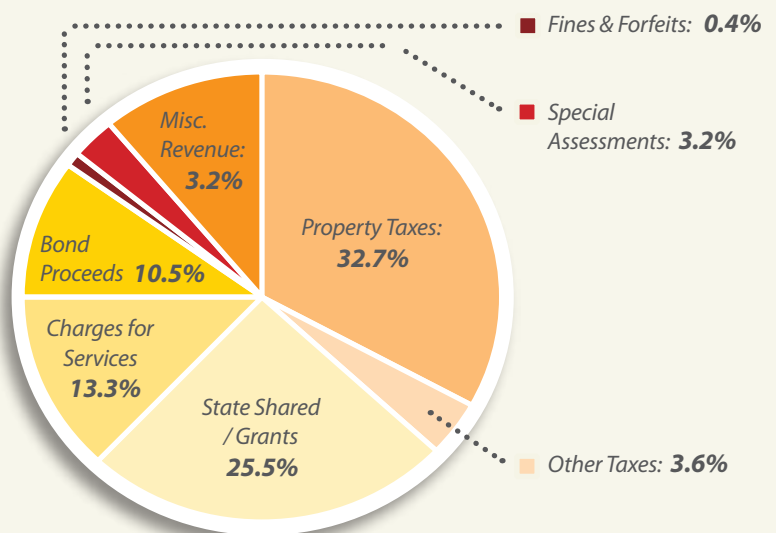
## ➤ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Managed the County's \$580 million 2005 fiscal year budget
- ▶ Received the Government Finance Officers Association's "Distinguished Budget Presentation Award" for the seventh consecutive year
- ▶ Monitored 48 individual debt obligations issued by the Board and ensured the payments, totaling approximately \$13,757,655, were made in a timely manner
- ▶ Oversaw the management of 115 grants valued at \$47,778,158
- ▶ Processed 1,703 line-to-line transfers, which is 762 transfers less than fiscal year 2004

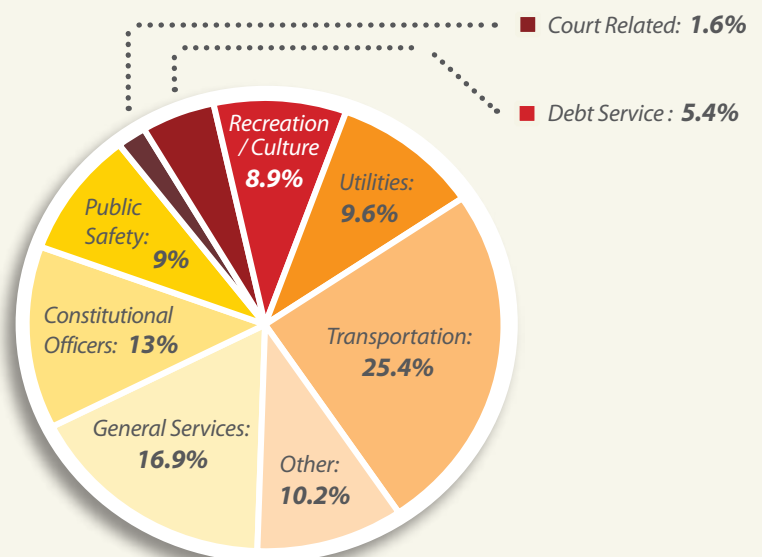
# Management & Budget

The mission of the Office of Management and Budget is to provide information, analysis, and staff support sufficient for the County Administrator and the Board of County Commissioners to make well informed financial, program and management decisions. The department's responsibilities include being a point of contact for departmental budget issues, grants oversight, revenue and expenditure forecasting, monitoring the debt schedule and funds, estimating cash balances, conducting statistical analysis, developing pro forma models and preparing studies at the request of the County Administrator or the Board of County Commissioners. The department's staff of professionals includes a Director, Budget Manager, two Senior Analysts, three Budget Analysts, one Analyst Intern and an Executive Secretary.

## ➤ REVENUE



## ➤ EXPENDITURES



# Utilities

Since establishment in 1994, St. Lucie County Utilities Department has extended water and wastewater utility service on North and South Hutchinson Island and in the North and Central County. The Utility Department has undergone many improvements throughout all the systems as a result of continued growth.



The entrance to the new St. Lucie County Utilities office.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ Completed the reclaimed water line extension under a grant from the South Florida Water Management District at the North Hutchinson Island district
- ▶ Completed improvements at the North Hutchinson Island wastewater treatment facility including construction of a new office/maintenance storage building, modifications to the head works, digesters and new air quality system
- ▶ Completed the consolidation of the Holiday Pines, Lakewood Park, Airport, and North Hutchinson Island into one Utility District
- ▶ Adopted new rates, new service and extension policies in August 2005
- ▶ Increased customer connections in North County by 1,243
- ▶ Completed transition to new offices at the St. Lucie County Administration Building
- ▶ Completed three miles of 16" water force main on Taylor Dairy Road to purchase bulk water from Fort Pierce Utilities Authority
- ▶ Completed five miles of 16" force main on U.S. 1 to connect to Fort Pierce Utilities Authority

## ✦ ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ▶ **Counseled 12,986 veterans and/or their dependents - by incorporating remote software with laptop computers, staff has the capability of completing the benefit claim process in one step during a home based visit to veterans not physically able to visit the office**
- ▶ **Submitted 5,750 veterans benefit claims to the Department of Veterans Affairs**
- ▶ **Aided veterans living in the County in receiving more than \$16,800 annually in monetary benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs**
- ▶ **Staff provided 18 presentations to groups and 10 local radio broadcasts - all resulting in the dissemination of information regarding benefits that can improve the quality of life for a veteran or dependant**
- ▶ **Managed more than 12,900 client visits and fielded more than 47,000 phone inquiries**
- ▶ **Provided 5,520 medical transportation trips for disabled veterans.**
- ▶ **Provided employment to seven veterans while attending local colleges as part of their education benefit through the Veterans Education Work Study Program**

# Veterans Services



Navy UDT-SEAL Museum Muster demonstration.

The Veteran Services Department mission is to serve St. Lucie County's veterans and their families with dignity and compassion and be their principal advocate in ensuring that they receive medical care, benefits and social support. Veterans Services is customer-focused, functioning as a team to deliver the means of improving the quality of life to more than 37,000 veterans living in St. Lucie County.

The close involvement with the staff from the West Palm Beach Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center remains a productive tool in bringing more medical benefits to veterans in the county. Active participation with nursing homes, assisted living facilities and more than 68 social agencies throughout the County enable the staff to provide a network of support necessary to promote the health, welfare and dignity of veterans and their families. The St. Lucie County Veterans Advisory Council plays an important role in the day-to-day operations. Thirty member organizations meet monthly to discuss and share information that has a direct impact on the benefits and medical service for veterans.

Veterans Services Department consists of seven full-time staff, two part-time employees and 6 on-call Veterans Medical Transportation Drivers. For the convenience of the veteran population, Veterans Services staffs two offices – one in Fort Pierce and one in Port St. Lucie.



Veterans Services Director Paul Hiott (right) was the guest speaker at the Port St. Lucie Pearl Harbor Day Memorial Service.

# Environmental Resources

The Environmental Resources Department (ERD) has nineteen employees in three operating units: Regulatory, Land Management and Education/Outreach.

The ERD is responsible for the development, permitting, protection and enhancement of the natural resources of the properties acquired the County and being developed in the County. This includes habitat restoration, land management and public access on environmental lands in accordance with approved management plans that will provide passive educational programs to the public through guided and self-guided tour programs. In addition, the ERD is responsible for education and outreach for children and adults and for reviewing upcoming development proposals in St. Lucie County to ensure compliance with the Comprehensive Plan and the Land Development Code.



Campers participate in a nature hike at the Oxbow Eco-Center.

## Solid Waste

The Solid Waste Baling and Recycling Facility is a 331-acre site that receives and processes solid waste products from residents and commercial properties in St. Lucie County.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

- ▶ Division was elevated to Department status
- ▶ Purchased 350 acres adjacent to the Paleo Hammock Natural Area
- ▶ Designed and distributed 36,000 educational brochures
- ▶ Lead 23 programs on the County's natural areas with a total attendance of 100 people
- ▶ Processed over 600 vegetation removal/exemption permits
- ▶ Received a \$175,000 grant from the Division of Forestry for the Adopt-a-Tree Program to help St. Lucie County replace tree canopy lost due to hurricanes
- ▶ Saw over 16,000 visitors at the Oxbow Eco-Center and had over 4,800 youth and adults participate in Oxbow's educational programs
- ▶ Over 50 volunteers donated more than 1,500 hours of community stewardship
- ▶ Received a \$100,000 donation from St. Lucie Audubon to support a classroom addition at the Oxbow
- ▶ Received grants for the removal of exotic plant species on North Fork III and Indrio North Savannahs

### SOLID WASTE

- ▶ Processed 696,000 tons of waste recovered 114,000 tons for recycling
- ▶ Completed construction of the \$3.5 million Construction and Demolition Recycling Facility
- ▶ Toured representatives from around the world at the Solid Waste Baling and Recycling Facility

# USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

## ST. LUCIE COUNTY NUMBERS:

Administration .....	462-1400
Animal Control .....	462-1770
Aquatics .....	871-2183
Attorney's Office .....	462-1420
Airport .....	462-1732
Central Services .....	462-1432
Code Enforcement & Compliance.....	462-1553
Community Services .....	462-1772
Contractor Licensing.....	462-1134
Cooperative Extension.....	462-1660
Cultural Affairs .....	462-2548
Economic Development.....	462-1564
Emergency Management.....	462-1771
Engineering .....	462-1707
Environmental Resources.....	462-2528
Fairwinds Golf Course.....	462-2722
Fairgrounds .....	462-2581
Grants .....	462-1400
Growth Management .....	462-2822
Historical Museum .....	462-1796
Housing.....	462-1772
Human Resources .....	462-1546
Information Technology .....	462-1740
Library .....	462-1618
Management and Budget.....	462-1670
Marine Center .....	462-3474
Marine Safety .....	462-1736
Mosquito Control District.....	462-1686

Oxbow Eco-Center.....	785-5833
Parks and Recreation .....	462-1511
Permitting .....	462-1553
Public Information/Media.....	462-1791
Public Safety .....	462-1736
Public Works.....	462-1707
Purchasing .....	462-1739
Radiological Planning.....	462-1831
Recycling .....	462-5678
Road and Bridge .....	462-2829
Savannas Recreation Area.....	464-7855
SLCTV.....	462-6421
Solid Waste .....	462-1631
Tourism .....	462-1535
Utilities .....	462-1150
Veterans Services.....	871-5416

## OTHER USEFUL NUMBERS:

Adelphia Cable (PSL) .....	692-1400
Ambulance Billing.....	462-8300
Backus Gallery & Museum.....	465-0630
BellSouth .....	780-2355
Chamber of Commerce.....	595-9999
Children & Families .....	467-3131
Clerk of Court.....	462-6900
Comcast Cable (FP) .....	461-5408
Community Transit - <i>Treasure Coast Connector</i> <i>Fort Pierce</i> .....	464-7433
<i>Port St. Lucie</i> .....	879-1287
Council on Aging (FP) .....	465-5220

Council on Aging (PSL) .....	336-8608
Driver's Licenses .....	468-3956
Fire District.....	462-8300
Fishing/Hunting Licenses.....	462-1650
Fish & Wildlife .....	(561) 624-6935
Florida Power & Light.....	287-5400
Fort Pierce City Hall .....	460-2200
Fort Pierce Police .....	461-3820
Fort Pierce Utilities.....	466-1600
Health Department .....	462-3800
Homestead Exemptions .....	462-1000
Indian River Community College .....	462-4700
Lawnwood Regional Medical Center .....	461-4000
Main Street Fort Pierce .....	466-3880
Motor Vehicle Registration .....	462-1650
Navy UDT-Seal Museum .....	462-3597
One Stop Career Center .....	462-6100
Port St. Lucie City Hall.....	871-5225
Port St. Lucie Police .....	871-5000
Port St. Lucie Utilities .....	871-5330
Public Defender .....	462-2048
School Board.....	429-3600
St. Lucie Medical Center.....	335-4000
State Attorney .....	465-3000
Sunrise Theatre .....	461-4224
Tradition Field/Mets.....	871-2100
University of Florida/IFAS.....	468-3922
Voter Registration .....	462-1500



**All Area Codes (772)  
unless otherwise noted.**

# QUICK FACTS

## 2005 ST. LUCIE COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS & STATISTICS

**ESTABLISHED:** July 1, 1905

**AREA:**

- 572 square miles
- 21 miles of beaches

**POPULATION** - 2004 estimate:

- 226,816 - Countywide
- 71,389 - Unincorporated

**ETHNICITY** - 2000 estimate:

- White - 74.1%
- Black - 15.4%
- Hispanic - 8.2%
- Asian - 0.9%
- Native American - 0.2%
- Other - 1.2%

**PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION**

- 2000 estimate:

- Women - 51.2%
- Over age 65 - 22.7%
- Under age 18 - 22.6%

**MUNICIPALITIES:**

- Fort Pierce
- Port St. Lucie
- St. Lucie Village

**AVERAGE HOME PRICE**

(July 2005): \$265,000

**COUNTYWIDE MILLAGE -**

**PROPERTY TAX RATE:** 7.3426

**PUBLIC LIBRARIES:** 5

**FIRE STATIONS:** 15

**NUMBER OF SCHOOLS:**

- Public - 33
- Private - 16
- Colleges & Universities - 5

**AMOUNT OF SOLID WASTE  
PROCESSED PER YEAR:**

- Household Waste  
302,000 tons
- Recycled Waste  
90,000 tons

**ACRES OF PARKS:** 2,300

**ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT  
LANDS PRESERVED:** 6,082 acres

**PUBLIC BUILDINGS:** 52

**BEACHES:**

- Total - 19
- Guarded - 11

**ROADS:**

- Paved - 348 miles
- Unpaved - 165 miles

**BOAT RAMPS:** 10

**AVERAGE TEMPERATURE:** 73.7°

# CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS

## Clerk of Court Edwin Fry, Jr.

The St. Lucie Clerk of Court acts as accountant and auditor for the Board of County Commissioners, collector and distributor of statutory assessments and guardian of the public records, public funds and public property for County Government. Additionally, the Clerk ensures that the court’s orders, judgments or directives are carried out within the parameters allowed by law, maintains the court’s records, collects and disburses the court fines, fees and assessments and collects and disburses court ordered child support and alimony payments for the Court System.

**Website:**  
**www.slclerkofcourt.com**  
**Phone: (772) 462-6900**

**Office Locations:**  
Orange Blossom Business Center  
4132 Okeechobee Road  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34947

Main Courthouse  
218 South 2nd Street  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

South County Annex  
250 N.W. Country Club Drive  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986

Finance Department  
2300 Virginia Avenue  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34982

Juvenile Department  
435 North 7th Street  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

Probate Department  
415 South 2nd Street  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34950

## Property Appraiser Jeff Furst

The Property Appraiser is responsible for placing fair, equitable and just values on real and tangible personal property in the county. The Property Appraiser’s office is staffed with 59 professionals working in three locations throughout the county: Administration Building, Walton Road Annex and St. Lucie West Administration Annex.

**Website: www.paslc.org**  
**Phone: (772) 462-1100**

**Office Locations:**  
Main Office  
2300 Virginia Avenue  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34982

Walton Road Annex  
1664 S.E. Walton Road  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34952

St. Lucie West Administration Annex  
250 N.W. Country Club Drive  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986

## Sheriff Ken Mascara

The Sheriff’s Office’s criminal justice services keeps all county residents safe by providing full law enforcement services and operating the County jail. The administrative center is on Midway Road, and there are substations in Port St. Lucie, Fort Pierce and north-county. The Sheriff’s Office has 600 employees.

**Website:**  
**www.stluciesheriff.com**  
**Phone: (772) 462-7300**

**Headquarters:**  
4700 West Midway Road  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34981

## Supervisor of Elections Gertrude Walker

The St. Lucie County Supervisor of Elections Office provides services such as voter registration, candidate information, campaign finance records, election dates, election results and voter education.

**Website: www.slcelections.com**  
**Phone: (772) 462-1500**

**Office Locations:**  
Orange Blossom Business Center  
4132 Okeechobee Road  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34947

St. Lucie West County  
Administrative Annex  
250 N.W. Country Club Drive  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986

Walton Road Administration Annex  
1664 S.E. Walton Road  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34952

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## Tax Collector Bob Davis

The St. Lucie County Tax Collector bills property owners for millages levied by each taxing authority for real estate and personal property taxes, bills for special assessments, issues occupational licenses, collects tourist taxes, issues fishing and hunting licenses, issues license plates and titles for cars and vessels and sells tax certificates.

**Website: www.taslc.com**  
**Phone: (772) 462-1650**

**Office Locations:**  
Main Office  
2300 Virginia Avenue  
Fort Pierce, Florida 34982

Walton Road Administration Annex  
1664 S.E. Walton Road  
Port St. Lucie, Florida 34952



## *Our Future's So Bright*



### ST. LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA 2005 ANNUAL REPORT

#### **PUBLISHED BY** ✦

St. Lucie County Media Relations Office  
Linette Trabulsy, *Public Information Officer*  
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[www.stlucieco.gov](http://www.stlucieco.gov)

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